



The Ultimate Sacrifice

SS HS-1.3.1 Students will evaluate the impact citizens have on the functioning of a democratic government by assuming responsibilities and duties.

In the military display area of the museum, you learned that many men and women from Glasgow and Barren County served in various branches of the military. Many of them fought and died or were wounded defending our country. Their service demonstrates their willingness to assume the responsibilities and duties that go along with being a citizen of the U.S. Choose one of the following activities to complete.

- **Letter writing was the only form of communication between families and their sons and daughters in the military during World War II. Getting a letter could take several weeks.**
 - 1. Write a letter from a mother to her son in the military. What were her feelings, her thoughts, and what would she tell him? Letter writing during World War II could take several weeks.**
 - 2. Compare communication with today's technology with cell phones and email with letter writing to servicemen during World War II.**

- **How did having a son or daughter away from home serving in the military affect other family members? Interview your family members to see if anyone from your family from generations past served in the military. Ask what they remember. What was it like for them? Take notes or use a tape recorder to record your findings and your reaction to what you learned.**
- **Pictures of young men reporting for service were taken before they began their tour of duty. They were loaded onto a bus and transported to Louisville where they were sent to military training camps. The pictures were taken on the court house steps. There are pictures of them in a binder in the military area of the museum. Look at the pictures. What is your reaction to the pictures? What might they have been thinking on that day? How do you think they felt as they left home, remembering that this was the first time that most of them had been away from home. How would you have felt if you were in their place? Record your thoughts in writing.**
- **These servicemen stepped up to do their duty for their country as they were drafted into service. Imagine what our country would be like today if those young recruits had refused to go or deserted. Although we no longer have the military draft in our country, there are many opportunities to join the military. Explain how this voluntary action is an example of how citizens are assuming responsibilities and duties in defense of our country. How would your family react if you decided to join the military**

